



**OFFICE OF THE
MAYOR
VAUGHN D. SPENCER**

CITY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
ROOM 2-33
815 WASHINGTON STREET
READING, PA 19601-3690
(610) 655-6234

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 8, 2012

NEWS RELEASE

CITY ARRANGES EMERGENCY DEMOLITION

After investigating a report by the manager of its Property Maintenance Division, City of Reading officials late Wednesday afternoon were working to arrange for the demolition of a dilapidated commercial building in the downtown area. Tom Wargo, Chief Building Officer in the City's Building & Trades Division, inspected a building in severe disrepair at 107 Lemon Street and determined that a wall was in eminent danger of collapse. Demolition experts on the scene late Wednesday afternoon were evaluating adjoining structures on Franklin Street, some of which are occupied residential properties. In the course of that investigation, major structure damage was found at the rear of 728 ½ Franklin Street, which contains two apartments.

Wargo said he expects demolition work to begin tomorrow at an estimated cost of \$75,000 to \$80,000.

Contact: Michael Dee
Special Assistant to the Mayor for
Media and Communications / City of Reading
(610) 655-6304 / (484) 772-6072 (cell)
michael.dee@readingpa.org

###



FAX: (610) 655-6697 TDD: (610) 655-6442